63rd NATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP - 2026

Event Code : 485283 / UP / 2026

29th November to 9th December 2026

Organised by
UP Chess Sports Association

In Association With
Varanasi Chess Association
&
Seth M. R. Jaipuria School,
Babatpur, Varanasi

Under the aegis of
All India Chess Federation

SETH M.R. JAIPURIA SCHOOLS
BANARAS
PARAO • BABATPUR

BEYOND THE BOARD
THE GREAT MINDS INITIATIVE



Venue:
Seth M.R.Jaipuria School,
Babatpur Campus, Varanasi.

Total Prize Fund:
Rs. 30,00,000/-

1. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Arrival	28th November 2026 After 16:00 hrs.
Technical Meeting	29th November 2026 at 13:30 hrs.
Inauguration	29th November 2026 at 14:00 hrs.
Round 1	29th November 2026 at 15:30 hrs.
Round 2	30th November 2026 at 15:30 hrs.
Round 3	1st December 2026 at 15:30 hrs.
Round 4	2nd December 2026 at 15:30 hrs.
Round 5	3rd December 2026 at 15:30 hrs.
Round 6	4th December 2026 at 15:30 hrs.
Round 7	5th December 2026 at 15:30 hrs.
Round 8	6th December 2026 at 15:30 hrs.
Round 9	7th December 2026 at 09:30 hrs.
Round 10	8th December 2026 at 09:30 hrs.
Round 11	9th December 2026 at 09:30 hrs.
Prize Distribution	9th December 2026 at 16:00 hrs.
Departure	9th December 2026 at 18:00 hrs.



2. PRIZES

The cash prizes will be awarded to top 10 amounting to

Rs. 30,00,000/-

Prize money is subject to TDS rates applicable as per Income tax Rules as on date of prize distribution.

1	1st Place	₹ 6,00,000
2	2nd Place	₹ 5,00,000
3	3rd Place	₹ 4,00,000
4	4th Place	₹ 3,00,000
5	5th Place	₹ 2,50,000
6	6th Place	₹ 2,50,000
7	7th Place	₹ 2,00,000
8	8th Place	₹ 2,00,000
9	9th Place	₹ 1,50,000
10	10th Place	₹ 1,50,000



3. ELIGIBILITY

(a) Four players from every affiliated State Association / Institutional Members of AICF. If any Association fails to send its quota, the vacancies caused will not be filled.

(b) All GMs/IMs/WGMs are seeded. Such entries should come through their respective State Associations / Affiliated Units of AICF.

(c) First six players from the previous National Championship rankings (other than GMs/IMs/WGMs).

(d) National Junior Chess Champion – 2025–26.

(e) Winner & Runner-up of the 2025–26 National Women Chess Championship.

(f) Current World Champion in any category.

(g) Current Asian Junior Champion and top three players from the last Asian Men Chess Championship.

(h) Host, UP Chess Sports Association, shall be entitled to field four additional players.

(i) All Board Prize winners of the 2025–26 National Team Chess Championship held in Raipur, Chhattisgarh (March 2026).

(j) Four players approved by AICF will be permitted from areas where no State Association exists.

(k) One nominee of the Hon. Secretary, AICF.

(l) If the total number of entries is odd, the host, UP Chess Sports Association, may add one additional entry to make it even.

(m) Special Entries: Players having a valid FIDE Standard (Classical) rating as per November 2026 FRL and remitting the prescribed Special Entry Fee of Rs. 12,500/-. All such entries should come through their respective State Associations / Affiliated Units of AICF.



4. DRESS CODE:

As per AICF regulations on dress code for players participating in all National Championships, all State Associations must ensure that their players, including Special Entry players, are provided with proper uniforms. (In the case of Special Entry players, the respective State Associations may collect the cost of the uniform from the players.)

Players must wear uniform T-shirts or formal shirts of the same colour and brand, with the name of the State printed prominently on the back and the State Chess emblem on the front (left side). The name/logo of sponsors may also be permitted. Appropriate uniforms must also be provided for girls/women participants.

This rule is also applicable to Special Units.

Players without proper uniform will not be permitted to participate in the Championship. This will be strictly enforced.

5. Entries/Entry Fee:

All entries including special entries should come through the State Association concerned.

ENTRY FEE STRUCTURE

ORDINARY ENTRY	SPECIAL ENTRY
Rs. 3750/-	**Rs. 12500/-**
(Rupees three thousand seven hundred and fifty only)	(Rupees twelve thousand five hundred only)

- There will be a 50% concession in entry fee for participants from North Eastern States and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- Entry fee will be accepted strictly online through:

https://prs.aicf.in/entry

- For clarification and guidance regarding submission of entries, please contact: aicfnationalentries@gmail.com

6. ENTRY FEE STRUCTURE

Please note that the entry fee structure is valid till 15th November 2026.
Thereafter a late fee of Rs. 250/- per player will be levied.
No entry will be entertained after 22nd November 2026 (up to 17:00 hrs.).



SYSTEM OF PLAY & OTHER RULES

7. SYSTEM OF PLAY:

The Championship will be played under FIDE's Laws of Chess and the Swiss system. A total of eleven rounds shall be played.

8. DEFAULT TIME:

Default time for arriving at the chessboard is 15 minutes.

9. TIME CONTROL:

The rate of play shall be 90 minutes for 40 moves followed by 30 minutes with an increment of 30 seconds per move from move number one.

10. CHESS CLOCKS:

Each participating State Chess Association must provide at least one clock in working order for every two players entered the Championship.

11. TIE BREAK:

Following is the order of tie-break:

(a) Buchholz Cut1 (b) Buchholz
(c) Sonneborn Berger (d) Direct encounter
(e) The greater number of wins (forfeit included)
(f) The greater number of wins with black

In case of tie, cash prizes will not be shared.

12. DRAW AGREEMENT:

Players shall not agree for a draw without the consent of the arbiter, before each player makes 30 moves.

13. PROTEST:

Protest, if any, against the decision of the Chief Arbiter shall be made in writing with a protest fee of Rs.3000 within 15 minutes after completion of the concerned game. The protest fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

14. APPEALS COMMITTEE:

Appeals Committee: Before the commencement of the tournament, a five-member Appeals Committee shall be constituted by the AICF / Organizing Committee, comprising three (3) main members and two (2) reserve members. All the members and reserves shall be from different states. No member of the Committee can vote on a dispute in which a player from his own state is involved and, in such case, (s) the reserve member(s) shall take his place in the committee.

15. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:

The organizers will form a tournament committee for the smooth conduct of the National Championship.

16. INTERPRETATION:

For interpretation of the rule(s) and deciding any point not covered by the above rules of the tournament, the decision of the Tournament Committee shall be final and binding on all. The Tournament Committee has every right to make any addition or amendment to these rules, without notice. However, such changes/ or inclusion will be subject to AICF clearance. Such changes will, however, be displayed in the tournament hall.

17. WITHDRAWAL:

If any player withdraws from the last two rounds in any National Championship on medical grounds, he/she should undergo treatment by a doctor recommended and supervised by the tournament committee. The entry fee once paid shall not be refunded if the withdrawal from championship is done after the publication of first round pairings.

18. DISQUALIFICATION:

No participant will leave the venue before the Prize Distribution function without the permission of the Chief Arbiter. The participants disregarding this rule will be suspended for one year.

19. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS WITH AICF:

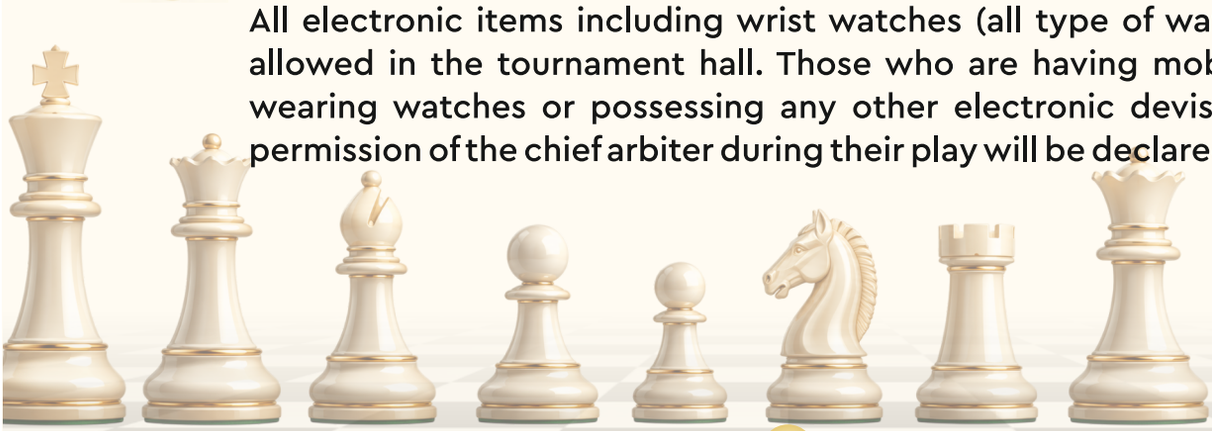
All participants in the National Championship shall be registered with AICF for the year 2026-27 before the registration on AICF Online portal for national entries. Online AICF registration can be done at the website www.aicf.in/players.

20 ARREARS:

All arrears of affiliation fee/tournament fee including those of current year must be cleared up by the affiliated Association at the time of submitting the entries; otherwise, the entries are liable to be rejected.

21. ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

All electronic items including wrist watches (all type of watches) are not allowed in the tournament hall. Those who are having mobile phones or wearing watches or possessing any other electronic devise without the permission of the chief arbiter during their play will be declared lost.



ACCOMMODATION

Dormitory lodging will be provided to all regular entry players, including seeded players.

Players who wish to avail the lodging facility must fill and submit the Google Form. This is mandatory so that the Organizing Committee can make proper accommodation arrangements.

Last date to submit the Google Form: 22nd November 2026.

Players are requested to submit the form on or before the last date to ensure that their lodging requirements can be considered.

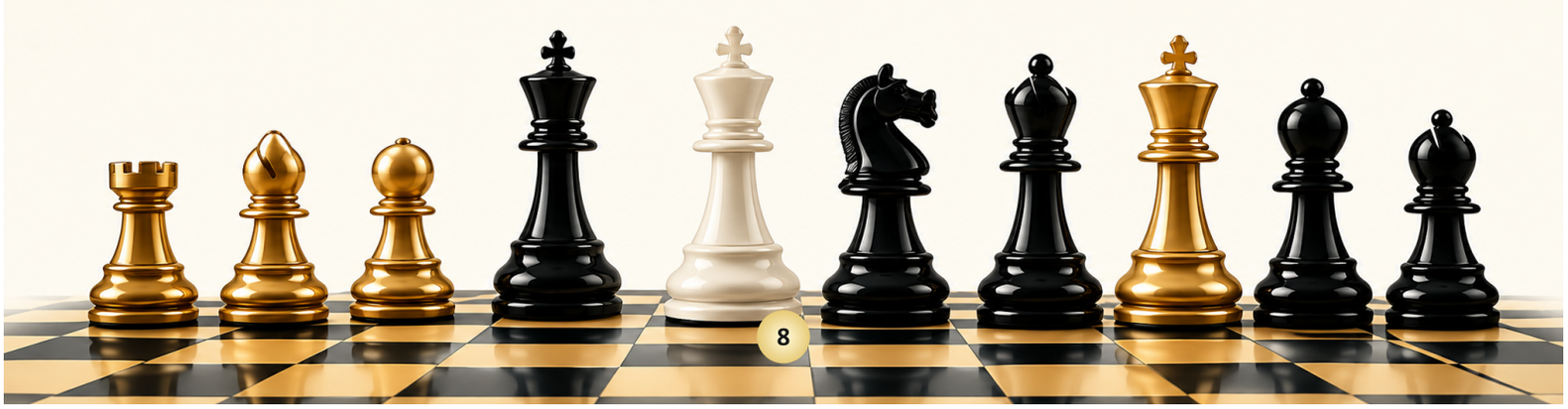
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PLAYER ALLIOWANCE

A lumpsum of Rs.1500/- (Rupees one thousand five hundred only) will be paid by the organizers towards the boarding expenses, only to the affiliated State Associations' seeded and selected players who play this championship under normal entry fee.

FOOD & FACILITIES

- Meal options available at subsidized rates.
- South & North Indian dishes available.
- Varanasi city, famous for food, offers wide dining options available off-campus.



MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Round-the-clock medical support will be available at the venue.

OTHER INFORMATION

- Travel: Nearest Airport: Babatpur Airport
  (Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport) – approx. 1.7 km from the venue.
- Nearest Railway Station: Varanasi Junction (Varanasi Cantt)
  – approx. 20 km from the venue.
- Nearest Bus Station : Varanasi Cantt Bus Station
  (Chaudhary Charan Singh Bus Station) approx. 20 km from the venue.
- Climate: November & December are cold in Varanasi.
  Max Temp: 22°C **Min Temp: 10°C**
- Carry adequate warm clothing, jackets, sweaters, etc.

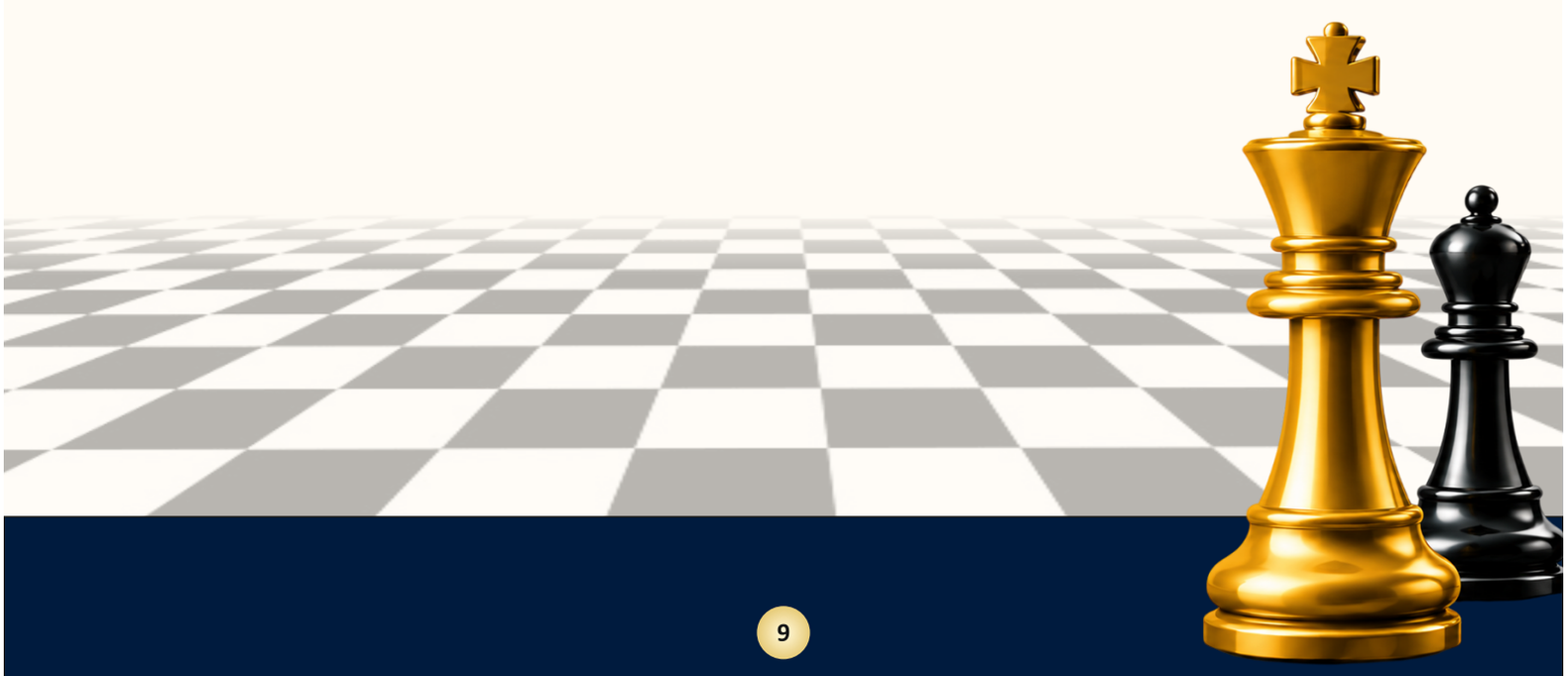
CONTACT INFORMATION

ENTRY QUERIES:

aicfnationalentries@gmail.com

GENERAL QUERIES:

varanasinational2026@gmail.com



BEYOND THE BOARD

THE GREAT MINDS INITIATIVE



OUR MISSION

To connect young minds to India's great scientific heritage through engaging, school-based activities.

Following the success of our pilot project in Lucknow, we are expanding nationwide. We aim to inspire children to explore the lives and discoveries of Indian science icons, starting with Sir C. V. Raman.

1 DISTRICT – VARANASI
Deep school activation across the host district.

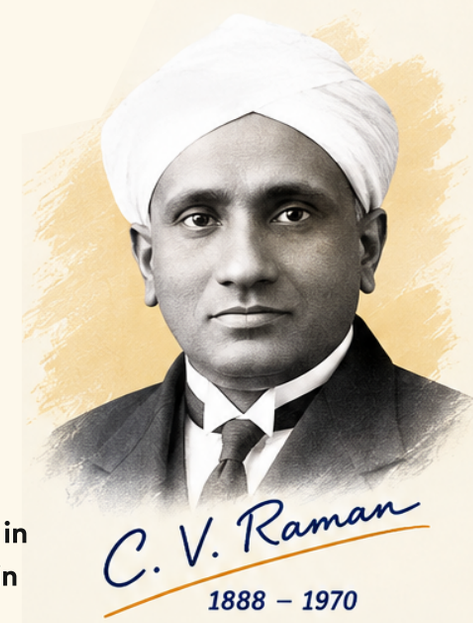
2 STATE – UTTAR PRADESH
Statewide expansion across all districts.

3 NATIONAL – INDIA
Nationwide rollout with participating schools.

ABOUT C. V. RAMAN

Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman (C. V. Raman) was one of India's great physicists. He was born on **7 November 1888 in Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu.**

- He conducted important research on the **scattering of light.**
- On **28 February 1928**, he discovered the **'Raman Effect'.**
- According to the Raman Effect, when light passes through a material, a small part of the light can undergo a **change in its energy and wavelength.**
- For this great discovery, he received the **Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930.** He was the **first Indian scientist to receive a Nobel Prize in science.**
- In India, **28 February** is celebrated every year as **National Science Day** in memory of his discovery of the Raman Effect.
- He was awarded the **Bharat Ratna in 1954.**
- He passed away on **21 November 1970.**





IN BRIEF

C. V. Raman made India proud throughout the world through his scientific research. The Raman Effect is his most famous discovery, and it is still used in the study of physics, chemistry, and materials.


NOBEL PRIZE 1930



BHARAT RATNA 1954

For any further queries, schools may contact: varanasinational2026@gmail.com

ORGANISING COMMITTEES

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Chairman
- **Deepak Kumar Bajaj**
  President, Varanasi Chess Association
- **Vijay Kumar (+91-9415256945)**
  Organizing Secretary
  Joint Secretary, UP Chess Sports Association
- **Tushar Saraswat (+91-9559161414)**
  Convenor
  General Secretary, Varanasi Chess Association
- **Anand Singh (+91-9839001533)**
  Organizing Co-ordinator
  General Secretary, Lucknow Chess Association

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman
- **Ajai Mishra**
  Joint Secretary
  UP Chess Sports Association
  (+91-9412821922)
- **Atul Nigam**
  Joint Secretary
  UP Chess Sports Association
- **Umesh Singh**
  Executive Member
  UP Chess Sports Association

RECEPTION & VENUE COMMITTEE

Chairman
Anil Kr. Jajodiya
Director, SMRJS

Shamz Tabrez
Vice President,
Varanasi Chess Association

Ms. Sudha Singh
Principal, SMRJS

Ramesh Yadav
Sports HOD, SMRJS
(+91-9005983226)

BOARDING COMMITTEE

Ms. Sangeeta Thakur
Boarding Incharge, SMRJS
(+91-6306064488)

C K Ganguly
Treasurer,
Varanasi Chess Association

Sanjay Sinha
Member,
Varanasi Chess Association
(+91-93369 12577)

LODGING COMMITTEE

Mr. Kamal Thakur
Lodging Incharge, SMRJS
(+91-7052000964)

Shahab Ahmad Farooqui
Joint Secretary,
Varanasi Chess Association
(+91-8182074439)

Dinesh Kr. Pandey
Executive Member,
Varanasi Chess Association
(+91-8887815394)

TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Mr. Amit Kr. Singh
Transport Incharge
SMRJS
(+91-7518021811)

DD Pathak
Joint Secretary
Varanasi Chess Association

Rajiv Srivastava
Member
Varanasi Chess Association
(+91-9005154305)

UP CHESS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Kartik Kapoor
President,
UP Chess Sports Association

Deepak Saigal
Vice President,
UP Chess Sports Association

A K Raizada
Secretary,
UP Chess Sports Association
(+91-9451247160)

Vinay Anand
Treasurer,
UP Chess Sports Association

EMERGENCY CONTACT : officeupcsa@gmail.com | upchesssportsassociation@gmail.com

VARANASI
KASHI DARSHAN

A Spiritual, Cultural & Heritage Journey





Dashashwamedh Ghat
Ganga Aarti



Sunrise Boat Ride
on the Ganges



Kashi Vishwanath
Temple



Sarnath
DhamekStupa



Ramnagar Fort

SACRED TEMPLES

- Shri Kashi Vishwanath Temple
- Maa Annapurna Temple
- Kaal Bhairav Temple
- Sankat Mochan Hanuman Temple
- Durga Temple
- Tulsi Manas Temple
- Bharat Mata Temple
- New Vishwanath Temple (BHU)



GHATS & GANGA

- Dashashwamedh Ghat
- Assi Ghat
- Manikarnika Ghat
- Panchganga Ghat
- Ahilyabai Ghat
- Morning Ganga Boat Ride
- Evening Ganga Aarti



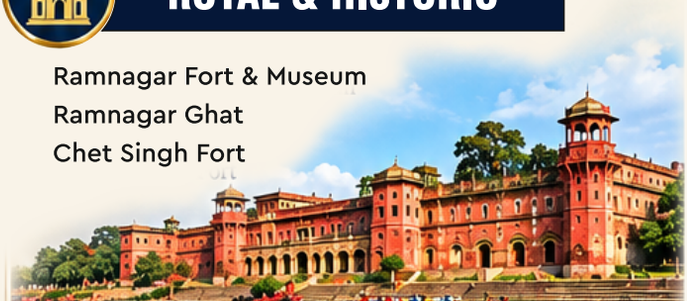
HERITAGE & CULTURE

- Sarnath
- Dhamek Stupa
- Sarnath Museum
- Chaukhandi Stupa
- Banaras Hindu University
- Deendayal Hastkala Sankul
- Banarasi Silk & Handicrafts



ROYAL & HISTORIC

- Ramnagar Fort & Museum
- Ramnagar Ghat
- Chet Singh Fort



HOTELS NEARBY



K.J. International Hotel

- N.H-56, Airport Road,
  Near Sammukh Hospital,
  Babatpur, Varanasi Uttar Pradesh 221006
- Contact No. 9838839003
- Email I'd: hotelkjinternational@gmail.com

Ram Janki Palace

- Opp Raj Polytechnic college,
  Baragaon, Shishwa, Varanasi,
  Uttar Pradesh 221006
- Contact No. +91-9839066008, 9839066009
- hotelramjankipalace@gmail.com

Hotel Vikram Palace

- 66, Central Jail Rd, Gilat Bazar, Chotta Chuppepur
  Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh 221003
- Mobile No.: 9519505232, 9519505242
- reservation@vikrampalace.in
  info@vikrampalace.in

Pushpanjali Home Stay

- S. 1/118 - C - M - 1P, Central Jail Road
  Opp: Central Jail, Shivpur, Varanasi, UP 221002
- +91 9936 443 777, 9792 863 777
- Email: pushpanjalihomestay@gmail.com

Hotel Uttam Chain Basera

- Airport Road,Near Sanmukh Hospital,
  Babatpur, Uttar Pradesh 221006
- Contact No. 7054998819
- Email I'd: ucbsince1986@gmail.com

Hotel Vagmi

- S-1/35-42-S, Shyam Nagar Colony,
  Central Jail Road, Club Road,
  Shivpur, Varanasi 221002
- Contact Details: Call +91-9369601100
- info@hotelvagmi.com

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WHERE STRATEGY MEETS EXCELLENCE



63rd NATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP–2026





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PARAO CAMPUS
Mob.: 70 80 400 882/83/85

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